AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following is a marked-up version of the claims with the language that is underlined ("___") being added and the language that contains strikethrough ("—") or is enclosed within double brackets ("[[ ]]") being deleted:

1. (Currently Amended)   A method for providing media information to a user via an interactive media services client device coupled to a programmable media services server device, said method comprising steps of:

receiving media information corresponding to a plurality of accessible media;

configuring a display order of media titles in the received media information according to the value of a media information parameter;

configuring each index in a continuous sequence of variably sized user-selectable index ranges, indices having a variable number of media titles, according to a respective first range of values of the media information parameter, each respective first range of values being determined according to the size of each of the index ranges based on a predetermined threshold defining a predetermined number of media titles;

configuring the continuous sequence of variably sized user-selectable index ranges indices for indexing the media titles in the display order, each user-selectable index range corresponding directly to the media titles in the received media information determined by the a respective first range of values of the media information parameter corresponding to the user-selectable index range, such that selection of any of the user-selectable index ranges indices automatically provides the media titles corresponding to the selected index range;

presenting, to the user, the selectable index ranges indices in an interactive media guide display, each of the user selectable index ranges indices being configured to provide the media titles according to the threshold defining a predetermined number of media titles;

receiving selection of a first user-selectable index <u>range</u>, the selection being a triggering event to provide at least a portion of the media titles corresponding to the first user-selectable index <u>range</u> and without presenting an additional index <u>range</u> that was not previously presented prior to selection of the first user-selectable index <u>range</u>; and

directly responsive to a user selecting a first user-selectable index <u>range</u>, providing simultaneously in the display order at least a portion of the media titles corresponding to the first user-selectable index <u>range</u>,

wherein, in response to determining that the number of media titles corresponding to the first user-selectable index <u>range</u> is less than the threshold, combining the first user-selectable index <u>range</u> with <u>an index within</u> another user-selectable index <u>range</u> such that the media titles corresponding to the first user-selectable index <u>range</u> and the <u>index within</u> another user-selectable index may be accessed via a combined user-selectable index <u>range</u>.

2. (Currently Amended)   A method for providing media information to a user via an interactive media services client device coupled to a programmable media services server device, said method comprising steps of:

receiving media information corresponding to a plurality of accessible media;

configuring an interactive media guide with a display order of the media titles in the received media information according to the value of a media information parameter and according to a portion of the received media information corresponding to a user-selected category;

determining a ~~first~~ range of values of the media information parameter corresponding to each index in a continuous sequence of variably sized user-selectable <u>index ranges,</u> ~~indices having a variable number of media titles, the first range of values~~ <u>the size of each of the index ranges</u> ~~being determined according to the~~ <u>based on a predetermined threshold</u> number of

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media titles in the portion of the received media information corresponding to the respective ~~first~~

range of values;

configuring the interactive media guide with the continuous sequence of variably sized

user-selectable <u>index ranges</u> ~~indices~~ for indexing the media titles in the display order;

presenting to a user an interactive media guide having a plurality of indexing prompts,

each of the indexing prompts directly corresponding to one and only one user-selectable <u>index</u>

<u>range</u> ~~index~~, such that selection of any of the user-selectable <u>index ranges</u> ~~indices~~ automatically

provides the media titles corresponding to the selected index;

receiving a first user input indicating selection of a first user-selectable index <u>range</u>, the

selection being a triggering event to provide at least a portion of the media titles corresponding

to the first user-selectable index <u>range</u> and without presenting an additional index <u>range</u> that

was not previously presented prior to selection of the first user-selectable index <u>range</u>; and

responsive to the first user input, providing simultaneously in the display order at least a

portion of the media titles corresponding to the first user-selectable index <u>range</u> and the user-

selected category.

3. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~first~~ range of values

defining each user-selectable index is selected from a group consisting of:

an alphanumeric character, a plurality of alphanumeric characters, a year, a plurality of

years, a rating, a plurality of ratings.

4. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein the media <u>is</u> selected from

a group consisting of:

title name, director name, actor name, year of release, title rating, and critic rating.

5. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

receiving user input identifying [[a]] the media information parameter for indexing the media titles.

6-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

charging the user a fee in connection with the provision of indexing functionality.

17. (Currently Amended)   An interactive media services client device for providing media information to a user comprising:

memory for storing media information received from a server, said media information corresponding to a plurality of respective accessible media; and

a processor configured to:

cause a display order of the media titles in the received media information according to the value of the release year of the media title;

enable a continuous sequence of variably sized user-selectable index ranges, indices having a variable number of titles for indexing displayed media titles, each user-selectable index range index directly corresponding to a range of time and according to a, the size of each of the index ranges based on a predetermined threshold defining a predetermined number of media titles;

determine the media titles in the received media information corresponding to each user-selectable index range and a user-selected category;

present, to the user, the selectable index ranges indices in an interactive media guide display, each of the user selectable index ranges indices being configured to provide a portion of the media titles according to the based on a predetermined threshold defining a predetermined number of media titles, directly in response to selection of one of the selectable index ranges indices; and

directly responsive to a user input, provide simultaneously in the display order at least a portion of the media titles in the received media information corresponding to a first user-selectable index <u>range</u> and the user-selected display, without presenting an additional index <u>range</u> that was not previously presented prior to selection of the first user-selectable index <u>range</u>.

18. (Previously Presented)   The client device of claim 17, wherein only media titles belonging to a sub-list of media titles are provided to the user.

19-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended)   The interactive media services client device of claim 17, further comprising:

receiving user input identifying the first user-selectable index <u>range</u>.

22. (Currently Amended)   The interactive media services client device of claim 21, wherein the media titles are ordered based on both the user-selected category and the first user-selectable index <u>range</u>.

23. (Previously Presented)   The interactive media services client device of claim 17, wherein user input is initiated by the user pressing an arrow button on a remote control device.

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended)   The interactive media services client device of claim 51, wherein the first user-selectable index <u>range</u> and a first media title associated with said first user-selectable index <u>range</u> are highlighted.

26. (Currently Amended)   The interactive media services client device of claim 25, wherein a second media title associated with a second user-selectable index <u>range</u> is

highlighted in response to the client device receiving user input designating said second user-selectable index <u>range</u> to be highlighted.

27. (Currently Amended)   The interactive media services client device of claim 25, wherein a second user selectable index <u>range</u> associated with a second media title is highlighted in response to the client device receiving user input designating said second media title to be highlighted.

28-31. (Cancelled)

32. (Currently Amended)   The interactive media services client device of claim 52, further comprising:

receiving user input identifying the first user-selectable index <u>range</u>.

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Previously Presented)   The interactive media services client device of claim 52, wherein user input is initiated by the user pressing an arrow button on a remote control device.

35. (Previously Presented)   The interactive media services client device of claim 52, wherein said interactive media guide includes a plurality of indexing prompts and a plurality of media titles.

36-37. (Cancelled)

38. (Currently Amended)   The interactive media services client device of claim 58, wherein a second user-selectable index <u>range</u> associated with a second media title is highlighted in response to the client device receiving user input designating said second media title to be highlighted.

39. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 2, wherein the first range of values defining each user-selectable index range is from a group consisting of:

an alphanumeric character, a plurality of alphanumeric characters, a media title release year, a plurality of years, a rating, a plurality of ratings.

40. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 2, wherein the media information parameter is selected from a group consisting of:

title name, director name, actor name, year of release, title rating, critic rating.

42. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein each respective range of values defining a user-selectable index range is further determined according to a second threshold defining a second predetermined number of media titles.

43. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 2, wherein each respective range of values is further determined according to a first threshold defining a first predetermined number of media titles.

44. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein the first range of values defining the first user-selectable index range is an alphanumeric character and a second range of values defining a second user-selectable index range is at least two alphanumeric characters.

45. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 2, wherein the first range of values defining the first user-selectable index range is an alphanumeric character and a second range of values defining a second user-selectable index range is a plurality of alphanumeric characters.

46. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein the media information parameter corresponds to a media release year, the first range of values defining the first user-

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selectable index <u>range</u> is a year, and a second range of values defining a second user-selectable index <u>range</u> is a plurality of years.

47. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 2, wherein the media information parameter corresponds to a media release year, the first range of values defining the first user-selectable index <u>range</u> is a year, and a second range of values defining a second user-selectable index <u>range</u> is a plurality of years.

48. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of:

charging the user a fee in connection with the provision of indexing functionality.

49. (Previously Presented)   The interactive media services client device of claim 17, wherein the user-selected category corresponds to the media titles in the received media information corresponding to all the movies in the media information.

50. (Previously Presented)   The interactive media services client device of claim 17, wherein the user-selected category corresponds a portion of the media titles in the received media information corresponding to one from: horror, drama, comedy, action, and foreign.

51. (Currently Amended)   The interactive media services client device of claim 17, wherein a first range of values corresponding to the first user-selectable index <u>range</u> is a year, and a second range of values corresponding to a second user-selectable index <u>range</u> is a plurality of years.

52. (Currently Amended)   An interactive media services client device for providing media to a user comprising:

memory for storing media information received from a server, said media information corresponding to a plurality of respective accessible media; and

a processor configured to:

cause a display order of media titles in the received media information according to the value of a media information parameter and according to a portion of the received media information;

determine a ~~first~~ range of values of the media information parameter corresponding to each index in a continuous sequence of variably sized user-selectable <u>index ranges,</u> ~~indices, the first range of values being determined according to~~ the <u>size of each of the index ranges based on a predetermined threshold of</u> number of media titles in the portion of the received media information corresponding to the respective ~~first~~ range of values;

enable an interactive media guide with the continuous sequence of variably sized user-selectable <u>index ranges</u> ~~indices~~ for indexing the media titles in the display order;

present to a user the interactive media guide having a plurality of indexing prompts, each of the indexing prompts directly corresponding to one and only one of the respective user-selectable <u>index ranges</u> ~~indices~~, such that selection of any of the user-selectable <u>index ranges</u> ~~indices~~ automatically provides the media titles corresponding to the selected index <u>range</u>;

receive a first user input identifying a first indexing prompt directly corresponding to a first user-selectable index <u>range</u>; and

directly responsive to the first user input, provide simultaneously in the first display order at least a portion of the media titles corresponding to the first user-selectable index <u>range</u> and a user-selected category,

wherein the at least a portion of the media titles are displayed without presenting an additional index <u>range</u> that was not previously presented prior to selection of the first user-selectable index <u>range</u>.

53. (Previously Presented)   The client device of claim 52, wherein the portion of the received media information corresponds to a user-selected category.

54. (Previously Presented)   The interactive media services client device of claim 53, wherein the user-selected category corresponds to the media titles in the received media information corresponding to all the movies in the media information.

55. (Currently Amended)   The interactive media services client device of claim 52, wherein first range of values defining the first user-selectable index range is an alphanumeric character and a second range of values defining a second user-selectable index range is at least two alphanumeric characters.

56. (Currently Amended)   The interactive media services client device of claim 32, wherein media information parameter corresponds to a media release year, the first range of values defining the first user-selectable index range is a year, and a second range of values defining a second user-selectable index range is a plurality of years.

57. (Currently Amended)   The interactive media services client device of claim 53, wherein the media titles are ordered based on both the user-selected category and the first user-selectable index range.

58. (Currently Amended)   The interactive media services client device of claim 52, wherein the first user-selectable index range and a first media title associated with said first user-selectable index range are highlighted.

59. (Currently Amended)   A method for providing media information to a user via an interactive media services client device coupled to a programmable media services server device, said method comprising steps of:

receiving media information corresponding to a plurality of accessible media;

configuring a display order of media titles in the received media information according to the value of a media information parameter;

configuring each index in a continuous sequence of variably sized user-selectable <u>index ranges,</u> ~~indices having a variable number of media titles~~ according to the display order ~~and according to a respective range of values of the media information parameter, each respective range of values being determined according to~~ <u>the size of each of the index ranges based on</u> a <u>predetermined</u> threshold ~~defining a predetermined~~ number of media titles;

configuring the continuous sequence of variably sized user-selectable <u>index ranges</u> ~~indices~~ for indexing the media titles in the display order, each user-selectable index <u>range</u> directly corresponding to the media titles in the received media information determined by ~~the~~ <u>a</u> respective ~~first~~ range of values of the media information parameter corresponding to the user-selectable index <u>range</u>, such that selection of any of the user-selectable <u>index ranges</u> ~~indices~~ automatically provides the media titles corresponding to the selected index <u>range</u>; <u>and</u>

directly responsive to a user selecting a first user-selectable index <u>range</u>, providing simultaneously in the display order at least a portion of the media titles corresponding to the first user-selectable index <u>range</u>,

wherein the at least a portion of the media titles are displayed without presenting an additional index <u>range</u> that was not previously presented prior to selection of the first user-selectable index <u>range</u>.

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